

YOUTH INVOLVED INNOVATION

Innovation is a unique opportunity to **change** the ways mental health challenges are being approached. As youth, we know what is lacking in our current mental health system and we are determined to find solutions.

Innovation can give us the tools to implement something that is better for youth and their communities. The information below will explain how you can begin using innovation to better your communities.

THE INNOVATION TIMELINE

COUNTY WORKS
WITHIN COMMUNITY
TO IDENTIFY AND
TARGET A NEED

COUNTY PROPOSES
AN INNOVATION PLAN
AND SEEKS LOCAL
APPROVAL

COUNTY
INNOVATION PLAN
IS APPROVED BY
THE STATE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE

The most optimal time for youth to provide input and their perspective on an innovation plan is during the development and BEFORE it is presented to the commission for approval

WHAT DOES INVOLVEMENT LOOK LIKE?

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1 Ask Questions

The first step in becoming engaged in the innovation process is to find inspiration by asking big questions. Inspiration can be found in many different areas from friends and family to local community activists and representatives. It is important to look at various sources of inspiration in order to generate strong ideas!



2

Generate Ideas

Good ideas come in all different shapes and sizes. Especially when talking about the mental health system, there are many avenues for change. Often times, ideas have several of the components. In what ways do your ideas fit or intertwine with some or all of these areas of change?

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility is about making services easier to access or use for a specific group or community?

An example is identifying specific services or programs lacking multilingual resources or translations.

INTEGRATION

Integration involves inserting a service, resource, action within an existing department's responsibilities.

An example is tasking a local mental health office to conduct more multilingual translations on top of the other responsibilities they are tasked with doing.

example idea:
more multilingual
mental health
services

ADAPTATION

Adaptation involves taking an idea from a non-mental health or mental health related context and altering it to resolve a specific mental health need.

An example is repurposing a successful translation app to focus on translating mental health resources

COLLABORATION

Collaboration involves asking different committees, offices, or organizations to come together in order to implement a shared goal.

An example is asking a non-profit that specializes in multilingual translations to collaborate with a state office responsible for delivering health services.